

2366-63

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13 MAR 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : U-2 Generator Brush Failures

25X1A5a1 1. In regard to the generator brush failure problem which has grounded our U-2's for the last two days and about which I informed you at yesterday morning's staff meeting, Lockheed is now reasonably sure that they have isolated the problem. The problem appears to be that for some reason not yet determined, [REDACTED] produced a quantity of brushes that have turned "soft." This same generator is used on a number of military aircraft, and the Air Force has also had a sudden number of failures.

2. The "soft" brushes fortunately can be readily identified. Lockheed is running a series of tests today to insure that they have definitely determined that this is the problem. Mr. Kelly Johnson informs us today that he feels that he will be in a position to recommend release of our aircraft for operations by tomorrow.

Signed: Herbert Scoville, Jr.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.  
Deputy Director  
(Research)


cc: DDCI

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Page Two

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Signature recommended:



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